

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/735,107

Examiner

Jared I. Rutz

Applicant(s)

KAO ET AL.

Art Unit

2187

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/26/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20 and 22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 and 22, as amended on 10/26/2006, are pending in the instant application. Applicant's arguments submitted 10/26/2006 have been carefully and fully considered, and are persuasive. Accordingly, this application is in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. Applicant's amendment to claim 2 and cancellation of claim 21 are sufficient to overcome the rejection of claims 2 and 21 under 35 USC 112. Accordingly, said rejections are withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

3. Applicant's amendment of claim 18 to recite "*selecting a match from the one or more match indications based on the precedence, the match corresponding to one of the plurality of entries*", discussed at page 6 paragraph 9 of Applicant's arguments submitted 10/26/2006, is sufficient to overcome the rejection of claims 18-20 under 35 USC 101. Accordingly, said rejection is withdrawn.

Reasons for Allowance

4. **Claims 1-20 and 22** are allowed.

5. **Claim 1** recites the limitation "*a plurality of hash function blocks, wherein each hash function block is configured to receive at least two of the masked keys and to*

Art Unit: 2187

provide at least three hash function outputs". This limitation is taught by the specification at paragraph 0020 lines 5-9. This limitation in combination with the other limitations of claim 1 is not taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

6. **Claims 3-17** depend from claim 1, and are considered allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

7. **Claim 18** recites the limitation "*determining if a system is in a shared mode; if they system is in the shared mode, sharing a plurality of hash functions for an entry of a memory bank; if the system is not in the shared mode, hard configuring the hash function for the entry of the memory bank*". This limitation is taught by the specification at paragraph 0007. This limitation, in combination with the other recited limitations of claim 18, is not taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

8. **Claims 19, 20, and 22** depend from claim 18, and are considered allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 18.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jared I. Rutz whose telephone number is (571) 272-5535. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Sparks can be reached on (571) 272-4201. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

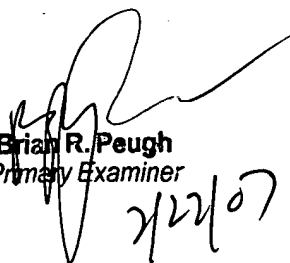
Art Unit: 2187

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jared I Rutz
Examiner
Art Unit 2187

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Brian R. Peugh
Primary Examiner
2/22/07